



Transferable Skills Training (South West) CIC
Merryhue Farm
Callington, Cornwall
PL17 7HW

Phone – 01579 384798

Date: 12 July 2021

Dear Parents, Guardians and older Students,

You will undoubtedly be aware from media announcements that TST is required to implement some new student practices in order to reopen after the Summer break.

Staff are working hard to ensure we continue to provide a safe and appropriate environment for students to undertake education. We will, of course ensure that all aspects of you or your child's safety and education are fully COVID compliant under the new guidance we have received from the Department of Education. All TST staff have now been offered vaccination and are undertaking twice weekly Lateral Flow Testing in order to minimise the ongoing risk to students.

We have reviewed our on-site risk assessment and would wish to make you aware that, whilst the government has relaxed the general rules for face coverings, in order to ensure student safety, TST will continue to insist on face coverings being worn on transport and within some classroom areas where social distancing is not possible. Students should be aware that, once again, this will be mandatory, and any refusal will result in the student being removed from the transport or the site.

In addition, as part of our plans to reopen after Summer we have been informed by D of E that all students will be required to undertake on-site testing on the day of their return. Please note that this is mandatory and any refusal to test will result in students being removed from site until such testing is completed. An exception will only be granted to students in possession of a GP endorsed medical exemption from testing, or the provision of physical evidence of a negative test result on an LFT test taken at home on the morning of their first day at TST. Following this initial test, students will be encouraged undertake twice weekly home testing in line with other schools. Home testing will, however, not be mandatory but is to be promoted as a tool to maintain the safety of staff and students alike.

Student education will continue to be managed in smaller closed groups, which will allow the minimising of social contact on site. However, the government have also changed their guidance on the management of positive cases within groups. Any student developing symptoms, or presenting a positive test



result, will be required to self-isolate in line with NHS guidelines. They will also require a confirmatory PCR test to be conducted through normal NHS channels. Students will not be allowed back on site until either a 10 day isolation period has been completed or a negative PCR test result is provided.

All other students and staff within the affected group will no longer be required to self-isolate. They will, however, be required to undertake daily testing when on site for 10 days following the infection being notified. Once again, refusal to undertake testing will result in the student being denied access to the site until such testing is undertaken. Exception will only be granted to students in possession of a GP endorsed medical exemption from testing. Should resources allow, students may be able to undertake testing at home, but will be required to provide physical evidence of a negative daily test before being allowed access to the site.

In order to be able to commence conducting on-site testing of students, we are required to obtain advance consent to testing, the details of which are contained below.

I would ask that you take some time to read through the enclosed testing leaflet and data protection summary before moving on to the consent details below. If, after reading the information, you wish to provide consent please complete the form below and return to TST at the earliest opportunity. Should you not wish to provide consent to testing please do let TST know at the earliest opportunity in order that appropriate support plans may be put in place prior to the site reopening.

I would also ask you to pay particular attention to paragraphs 7 to 10 of the consent form below. You should note that any positive test on site will require the student to be removed from site immediately (by parent/guardian where appropriate), and that use of either TST or taxi-based transport will not be possible to prevent further cross infection.

I fully understand that this new regime maybe for some quite a distressing requirement. But please let me reassure you that the test is quick, largely non-invasive, and painless. We will ensure the test is completed in the best possible way to ensure students are not upset by the process.

Should you have any further questions regarding consent, or wish to discuss remote learning, please do not hesitate to contact TST.

Yours faithfully

Katie Connell
Katie Connell
Head of Education





TST COVID TESTING CONSENT NOTES

Introduction

This consent form is for participation in tests designed to detect asymptomatic coronavirus cases. Anyone experiencing symptoms should follow [government guidelines to self-isolate](#), even if they have had a recent negative lateral flow test.

Consent relates to the following groups of students/pupils and staff as follows:

- **For pupils and students younger than 16 years** - this form must be completed by the parent or legal guardian. Please complete one consent form for each child you wish to participate in testing.
- **Pupils and students over 16 who are able to provide informed consent** - can complete this form themselves, having discussed participation with their parent / guardian if under 18.
- **For any pupil or student who does not have the capacity to provide informed consent** - this form must be completed by the parent or legal guardian. Please complete one consent form for each child you wish to participate in testing.

Terms of consent

1. I have had the opportunity to consider the information provided by the school/college about the testing, ask questions and have had these answered satisfactorily, based on the information presented in the enclosed leaflet and the attached Privacy Notice.
2. In the case of under 16s, I have discussed the testing with my child and my child is happy to participate. If on the day of testing they do not wish to take part, then they will not be made to do so and consent can be withdrawn at any time ahead of the test.
3. I consent to having / my child having a nose and throat swab for lateral flow tests. I / my child will self-swab if I / my child is able to otherwise I understand that assistance is available. In the case of under 16s or pupils who are not able to provide informed consent, I have discussed the testing with my child and they are happy to participate and self-swab (with assistance if required).



4. I understand that there may be multiple tests required and this consent covers all tests for the below named person. If, on the day of testing I / they do not wish to take part, then I understand I / they will not be made to do so and that consent can be withdrawn at any time ahead of the test.
5. I consent that my / my child's sample(s) will be tested for the presence of COVID-19.
6. I understand that if my / my child's result(s) are negative on the lateral flow test I will not be contacted by the school except where I am / they are a close contact of a confirmed positive.
7. If the lateral flow test indicates the presence of COVID-19, I consent to having / my child having a nose and throat swab taken at an NHS testing site for confirmatory PCR testing.
8. If the lateral flow test indicates the presence of COVID-19, I commit to ensuring that I / my child is removed from school premises as promptly as possible, bearing in mind I / they may have some anxiety following a positive test result. *Please note that any individual providing a positive test will not be permitted to use either TST or taxi transport.*
9. I consent that I / they will need to self-isolate following a positive lateral flow test result, until the results of the confirmatory PCR have been received.
10. I agree that if my / my child's test results are confirmed to be positive from this PCR test, I will report this to the school / college and I understand that I / my child will be required to self-isolate following public health advice.
11. I consent that if a close contact of my child tests positive but I / my child has tested negative, I / they will continue to attend school / college but will be tested every day at school / college for 7 days.





**TRANSFERABLE
SKILLS TRAINING**
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First Name	
Last Name	
Course	
Date of Birth	
Gender – this information is needed for Department for Health and Social Care research purposes.	Male/Female/Prefer not to say
Ethnicity - this information is needed for Department for Health and Social Care research purposes.	Asian or Asian British Black, African, Black British or Caribbean Mixed or multiple ethnic groups White Prefer not to say
Currently showing any COVID-19 symptoms?	
Home Postcode	
Email Address – this is where test results will be sent if requested	
Mobile Number – this is where test results will be sent. Please do not put a landline number – you can only receive test results to a mobile number.	
Name of person/parent/guardian giving consent	
Relationship to test subject	



**The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service**



Signature (typing out your name is sufficient if you are filling in this form digitally)	
Today's date	
Details of any health or accessibility issues which might affect a child's safe participation in the testing exercise.	

